

**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 2633**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/854,153

Filed: May 11, 2001

Inventor(s):  
Newell, et al.

Title: CHANNEL GAIN  
CONTROL FOR AN  
OPTICAL  
COMMUNICATIONS  
SYSTEM UTILIZING  
FREQUENCY DIVISION  
MULTIPLEXING

Examiner: Augustin Bello  
Group/Art Unit: 2633  
Atty. Dkt. No: 5957-41409

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Rory ~~D.~~ Rankin

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

November 21, 2005

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF**  
**SEPTEMBER 20, 2005**

**Mail Stop AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action of September 20, 2005, to further highlight why the application is in condition for allowance.